

To: ASI Board of Directors  
From: Caroline Tah-Espens  
Subject: October 2025 CSSA Plenary Notes

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Fall 2025 Office Hours:  
Monday: 10 am – 3 pm,  
Tuesday: 1:30pm -4:30pm  
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### **October California State Student Association**

The October CSSA Plenary was held in person at CSU Eastbay on October 18-19, 2025. The attendees were our ASI President Aranjoy Kaur and Executive Vice Presidents Richard Angulo and myself as CSSA Liaison. It was a one-day event that consisted of four committees and the Board of Directors meeting

#### **Systemwide Affairs Committee**

The consent agenda, including the previous minutes, was approved. Reports were presented by Vice President of Systemwide Affairs Katie Karroum and Assistant Director of Systemwide Affairs Genesis Jara-Gutierrez.

The committee focused primarily on the next steps regarding the CSU Artificial Intelligence (AI) Initiative. Members discussed key takeaways and current perspectives following the September presentation on the initiative. Several CSU campuses shared how AI implementation is impacting their institutions and whether they are conducting their own internal surveys—separate from the systemwide CSU AI survey—to better understand student support for the initiative.

It was noted that the CSU system invested approximately \$13 million to make ChatGPT available at no cost to all CSU students. Concerns were raised across campuses regarding the cost of this investment and the extent to which students are actively using the platform. The contracts are about to expire soon, leaving many with concern on who is going to take on this cost.

#### **Legislative Affairs Committee**

The consent agenda was approved. Reports were presented by Vice President of Legislative Affairs Derrick Herrera and Director of Government and Advocacy Mary Washington.

The committee reviewed an informational item concerning the CSSA Campus Advocacy Walkthrough, a preparatory guide for the upcoming California Higher Education Student Summit (CHESS). The presentation outlined steps for effective campus advocacy and identified legislators that campuses are encouraged to engage with to discuss both campus-specific and CSSA-wide priorities.

Emphasis was placed on the importance of campuses proactively building relationships with their respective legislators. An update was also provided on Civic Points, highlighting the current standings across campuses.

### **Board of Directors**

The consent agenda was approved, and reports were presented by both executive officers and staff. The Board approved the 2027–2028 CSSA meeting schedule as well as the 2025 CSSA Policy Agenda. The policy agenda focuses on addressing the total cost of attendance, enhancing student wellness, and fostering academic success across the CSU system. Key priorities include maintaining the affordability of higher education through expanded financial aid, improving access to mental health and wellness services, and strengthening diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and belonging (DEIAB) initiatives. Additionally, the CSU seeks to empower students as active partners in decision-making by promoting collaboration, accountability, and engagement with the Cal State Student Association (CSSA).

The Board also reviewed the final revisions to the CSSA Constitution concerning ordinary committee representation for potential approval, ensuring equitable representation across committees. There was discussion regarding the legislation, as several members expressed concern that its language could be interpreted in multiple ways. The meeting was then adjourned.

This concluded the October plenary meeting notes. The following plenary will take virtually November 9, 2025.

If there are any questions regarding any of the items in which I discussed in my report please reach out to the CSSA Liaison, Caroline Tah-Espens at [asicssarep@csus.edu](mailto:asicssarep@csus.edu) and I will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you.